



Department of
Safety and Professional Services

Tony Evers, Governor
Dan Hereth, Secretary

PRESS RELEASE—Contact DPS Newsroom at dpsnewsroom@wisconsin.gov

July 24, 2026
DPS Communications
608-220-1553

Wisconsin DPS Secretary Invited to Join Regulatory Leadership Group

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Service (DPS) Secretary Dan Hereth is meeting with leaders from around the country to discuss how smart regulation can help American citizens.

Hereth is one of just 13 people the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) invite to take part in its inaugural Leaders Circle, a first-of-its-kind leadership forum for executives of state regulatory agencies. You can learn more about the [Leaders Circle here](#).

The group will meet for the first time at the 2026 FARB Summit on Regulatory Excellence in Minnesota later this week.

“I’m very excited to begin collaborating with more of our peers from other states that face similar licensing and regulatory challenges,” said Hereth. “We’ve already learned and shared a lot with our neighboring state through the Midwest Occupational Licensing Collaborative, which we launched in 2023. The Leaders Circle opens a door for further collaboration on strategies that promote innovation and improve government efficiency.”

FARB launched the Leaders Circle in response to growing interest among agency executives for a dedicated forum to exchange ideas across professions and jurisdictions. FARB feels opportunities for leaders overseeing multiple regulatory programs to work together at a national level have been limited.

"The most effective solutions to today's regulatory challenges will not be developed in isolation," said Mike Armstrong, President of FARB. "They will come from leaders who are willing to share ideas, challenge one another, and collaborate across jurisdictions. The Centralized Regulatory Agency Leaders Circle reflects FARB's commitment to fostering those conversations and advancing regulatory excellence for the benefit of the public we all serve."

The 13 leaders meeting this week represent agencies across the US, from Maine to Idaho to the Virgin Islands. Leaders from at least 10 other states have expressed interest in participating in future meetings.

About DSPS

DSPS issues more than 240 unique licenses, administers dozens of boards and councils that regulate professions, enforces state building codes, runs the state fire prevention program, and maintains the award-winning Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which is a key tool in the multi-faceted public health campaign to stem excessive opioid prescribing. A fee-based agency, DSPS is self-sustaining and receives no general fund tax dollars for its day-to-day operations. With five offices and 250 employees throughout Wisconsin, DSPS collaborates with constituents and stakeholders across a wide range of industries to promote safety and advance the economy.